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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Stephen Douglas Barrett, et al. EXAMINER :  
SERIAL NO. : 10/049762 ART UNIT :  
FILED : January 16, 2002 PAPER NO :  
FOR : METHOD FOR TREATING CHRONIC PAIN USING MEK INHIBITORS

**Preliminary Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

**CLEAN COPY – PLEASE ENTER**

Please add the following new paragraph on page 1, after the title and before line 5:

This application is a 371 application of PCT/US00/18348 filed July 5, 2000, which claims the benefit of priority to United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,659 filed July 16, 1999, United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,658 filed July 16, 1999, United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,655 filed July 16, 1999, United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,419 filed July 16, 1999, United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,320 filed July 16, 1999, and United States provisional application Serial No. 60/144,280 filed July 16, 1999,

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